

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, IT

SUBJ: FY-1976 INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM

FOR: CU/WE

REF: 75 ROME A-524

1. PROPOSE PROJECT FOR YOUNG ITALIAN POLITICAL LEADERS OF KIND FORMERLY HANDLED BY AMERICAN COUNCIL YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS. THIS WOULD INVOLVE TWO GROUPS OF EIGHT, ONE REPRESENTING THE DEOCRATIC CHRISTIAN PARTY AND ONE THE SOCIALISTS. WE BELIEVE BICENTENNIAL AND U. S. ELECTIONS PROVIDE DOUBLE OPPORTUNITY REACH YOUNG LEADERS WHO COULD MAKE EFFECTIVE CONTRIBUTION IN NEAR FUTURE TOWARDS MORE POSITIVE TURNINGS IN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS HERE.

2. SPECIAL GOALS: A) BOLSTER CONFIDENCE IN WESTERN DEOCRATIC POLITICAL SYSTEMS AS BEST RESPONSE TO RAPID SOCIAL CHANGE; B) PROVIDE DIRECT EXPOSURE TO U.S. POLITICAL CAMPAIGN TECHNIQUES; C) REGISTER OF VOTE OF U.S. CONFIDENCE AND POSSIBLE PUBLICITY ASSISTANCE TO SELECTED INDIVIDUALS. TO ACCOMPLISH THESE, WILL REQUIRE RADICALLY DIFFERENT PROGRAM THAN USUAL IVP EFFORT. E.G. MEETING STUMPING CANDIDATES NOT ENOUGH, NEED MEET WITH FIRMS SPECIALIZING IN POLITICAL CONSULTATION, OPINION SURVEYING, WITH APPROACH FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO SUGGEST APPLICATIONS TO NON-U.S. SITUATIONS. NEED MEET U.S. POLITICAL FIGURES WHOSE PHOTOS WITH THEM WILL MAKE HAY AT HOME, WITH SENSITIVITY TO THOSE WHOSE IMAGE IN ITALY POSITIVE. NEED SUBSTANTIVE AND POLICY BRIEFINGS

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WHICH DELIVER MATERAL OF DIRECT AND IMMEDIATE USEFULNESS FOR

THEIR OWN CAMPAIGN USES, WHICH VARY ACCORDING TO EACH GRANTEE:
E.G. REASONS FOR OPTIMISM ITALIAN ECONOMY IF TIES TO WEST STRONG;
DEMONSTRATION OF U.S. FAITH IN AND SUPPORT FOR UNITED EUROPE
OF MODERATE GOVERNMENTS; FACTS ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS INCLUDING
MILITARY BALANCE.

4. VIEW IMPLEMENTATION OF LISTS I AND II OF IVP SUBMISSIONS
AS FIRST PRIORITY. THEREFORE REQUEST SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS BEYOND
THESE TO COVER THESE SIXTEEN GRANTEES. INITIAL CONTACT WITH
BOTH PARTIES IN PRINCIPLE INDICATE POSSIBILITY THEIR FUNDING
INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL; HOPEFULLY THIS WILL LEAD TOWARDS RETURN
TRIP BY U.S. YOUNG POLS IN EARLY FUTURE ON SAME BASIS.
OBVIOUS REASONS DICTATE NECESSITY THAT THESE TWO GROUPS MUST BE
CONCEIVED OF TOGETHER, I.E. DC GROUP SHOULD NOT TRAVEL WITHOUT PSI
GROUP PLANNING UNDERWAY.

5. TWO ADDITIONAL IV GROUP PROJECTS UNDER DISCUSSION AND WILL
FORWARD BY END OF WEEK, BUT PRESENT PROJECT CLEAR PRIORITY.
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